

# Fruits Basket

TM



17

SHOJO MANGA

TOUKAICHI

# Fruits Basket™



The #1 selling  
shojo manga  
in America!

17

SHOJO MANGA

TOKYOPOP

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TOKYOPOP



17

SHOJO MANGA

Akito has more than skeletons hiding in the closet—the curse, dear reader, is not the only reason Kureno won't leave Akito. And who can make Arisa understand Kureno's devotion to Akito? Graduation is approaching, so everyone needs answers! It's all right inside this volume of the super-popular *Fruits Basket*, the winner of Best Manga at the inaugural American Anime Award Show!



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# Fruits Basket

Volume 17



Natsuki Takaya

# Fruits Basket™

Filler  
Sketch



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# STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent, when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, they change into their Zodiac animal!



# Fruits Basket Characters



## Mabudachi Trio

### Shigure Sohma, the Dog

Enigmatic, mischievous and a little perverted. A popular novelist.



### Hatori Sohma, the Dragon

Family doctor to the Sohma's. Only thing he can't cure is his broken heart.



### Ayame Sohma, the Snake

Yuki's older brother. A proud and playful drama queen...er, king. Runs a costume shop.

### Saki Hanajima

"Hana-chan." Can sense people's "waves." Goth demeanor scares her classmates.

### Arisa Uotani

"Uo-chan." A tough-talking "Yankee" who looks out for her friends.



Tohru's Best Friends



## Tohru Honda

The ever-optimistic hero of our story. An orphan, she now lives in Shigure's house, along with Yuki and Kyo, and is the only person outside of the family who knows the Sohma family's curse.



### Yuki Sohma, the Rat

Soft-spoken. Self-esteem issues. At school he's called "Prince Yuki."



### Kyo Sohma, the Cat

The Cat who was left out of the Zodiac. Hates Yuki, leeks and miso. But mostly Yuki.



### Kagura Sohma, the Boar

Bashful, yet headstrong. Determined to marry Kyo, even if it kills him.

# Fruits Basket Characters

## Isuzu "Rin" Sohma, the Horse

She was once in a relationship with Hatsuhiro (Haru)...and Tohru leaves her rather cold. Rin is full of pride, and she can't stand the amount of deference the other Sohma family members give Akito.



## Akito Sohma

The head of the Sohma clan. A dark figure of many secrets. Treated with fear and reverence.



## Ritsu Sohma, the Monkey

This shy kimono-wearing member of the Sohma family is gorgeous. But this "she" is really a he! Crossdressing calms his nerves.



## Momiji Sohma, the Rabbit

Half-German. He's older than he looks. His mother rejected him because of the Sohma curse. His little sister, Momo, has been kept from him most of her life.



## Hatsuhiro Sohma, the Ox

The nicest of guys, except when he goes "Black." Then you'd better watch out. He was once in a relationship with Rin.



## Kisa Sohma, the Tiger

Kisa became shy and self-conscious due to constant teasing by her classmates. Yuki, who has similar insecurities, feels particularly close to Kisa.

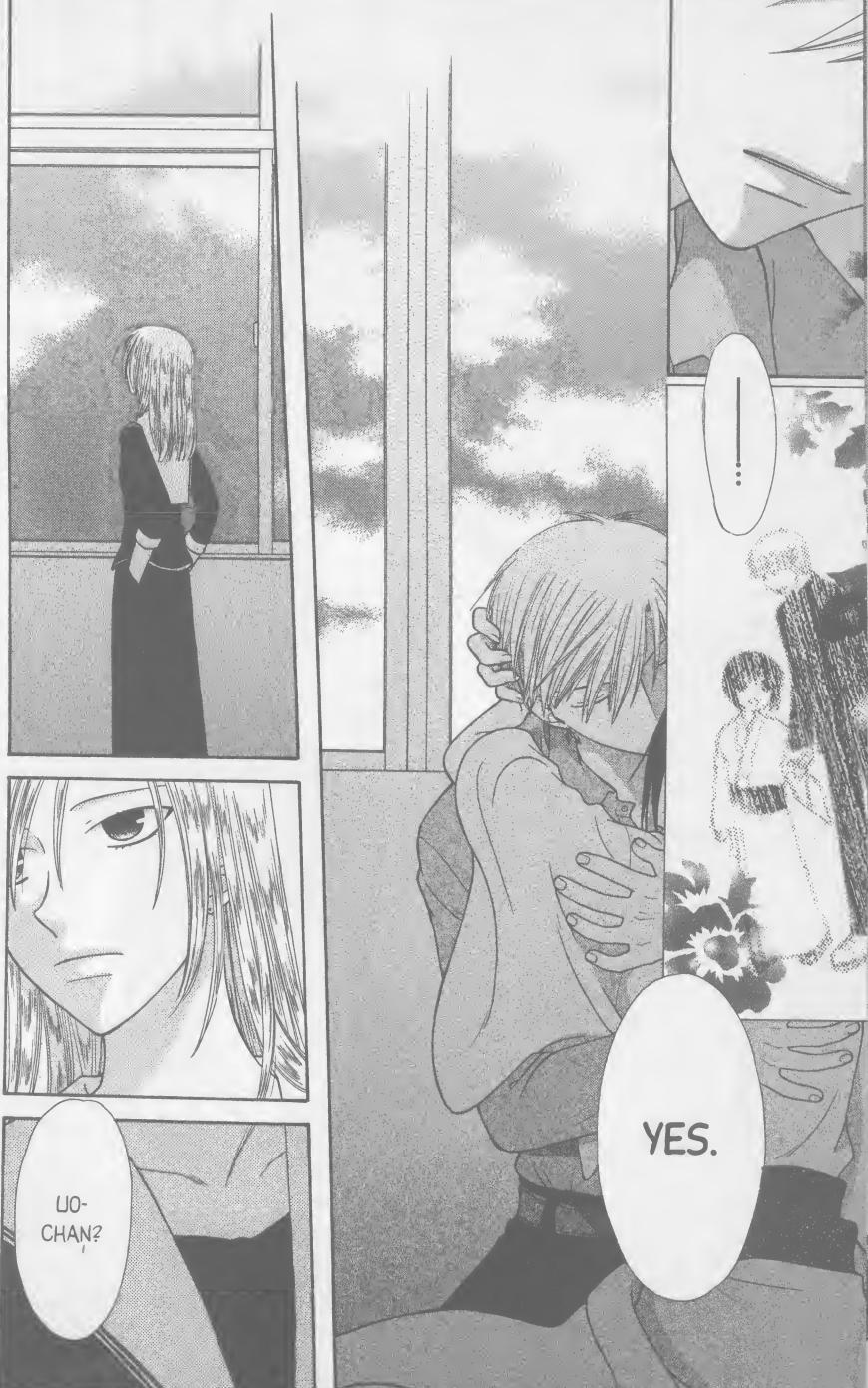
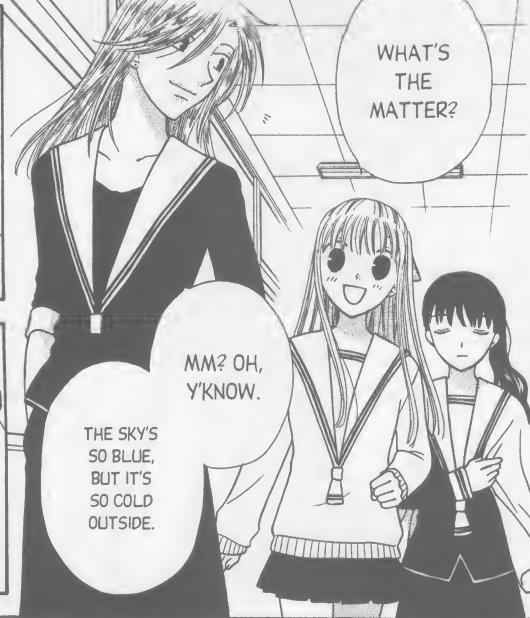


Chapter 96

# Fruits Basket







Fruits  
Basket 17

Pleased to meet you and hello. This is Takaya, presenting Volume 17. The cover is Hana-chan!

...Somehow it's been no time at all. I feel like time's passing by very quickly these days; I don't know if it's because I'm pushing forward or if it's because of my age. There are a lot of games on sale that I want to play, too, but I don't have the time, so I feel like they're piling up...

There may be people who think, "If you're not going to play it now, buy it later!" but I want to have it on hand. (How can I say what I mean here?) So that someday, when I have time, I can start playing. I wonder if anyone can understand that feeling (laugh).

Well then, please enjoy Furuba 17!

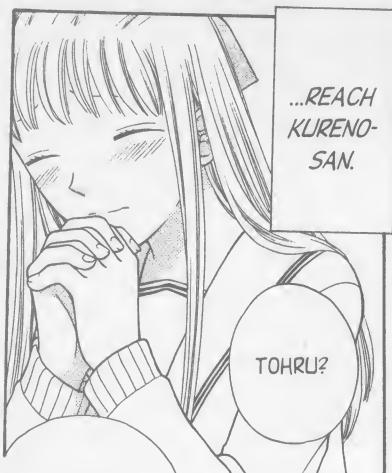


HOW DO  
YOU KNOW  
ABOUT ME  
AND HARU?!

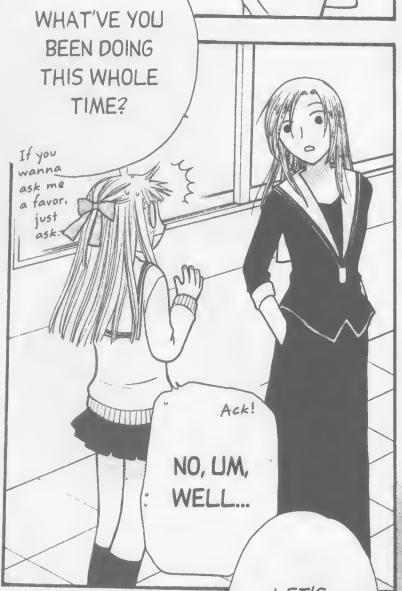








TOHRU?





"WHY DIDN'T  
YOU COME  
RIGHT AWAY  
WHEN THAT  
IDIOT YUKI SAID  
ALL THOSE  
NASTY THINGS  
TO ME?!"

"WHY ARE  
YOU LIKE  
THAT?!"

"WHY DON'T  
YOU EVER  
CHOOSE ME  
FIRST?!"

IT'S SO  
HYPOCRITICAL.



I THOUGHT  
THAT WAS  
WHY YOU CAME  
HERE TODAY.

WHAT ABOUT  
YOU? AREN'T  
YOU GOING TO  
SEE HIM?



DIDN'T LIKE  
MY ATTITUDE,  
APPARENTLY.

## "WHY?"

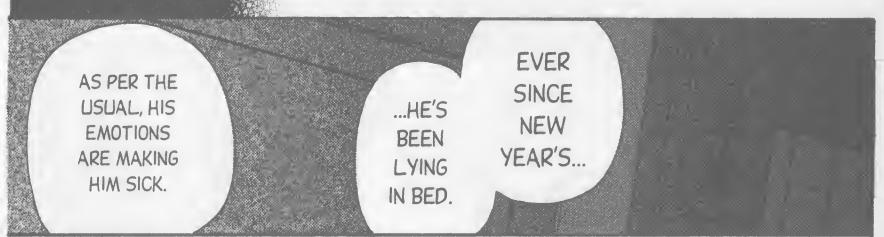


LET'S HAVE  
YUKI-KUN  
DO THE  
NURSING--IT'S  
ONLY FAIR.

DON'T BE  
STUPID.



BUT IT'S  
LINGERING  
A LITTLE  
LONGER  
THIS TIME.



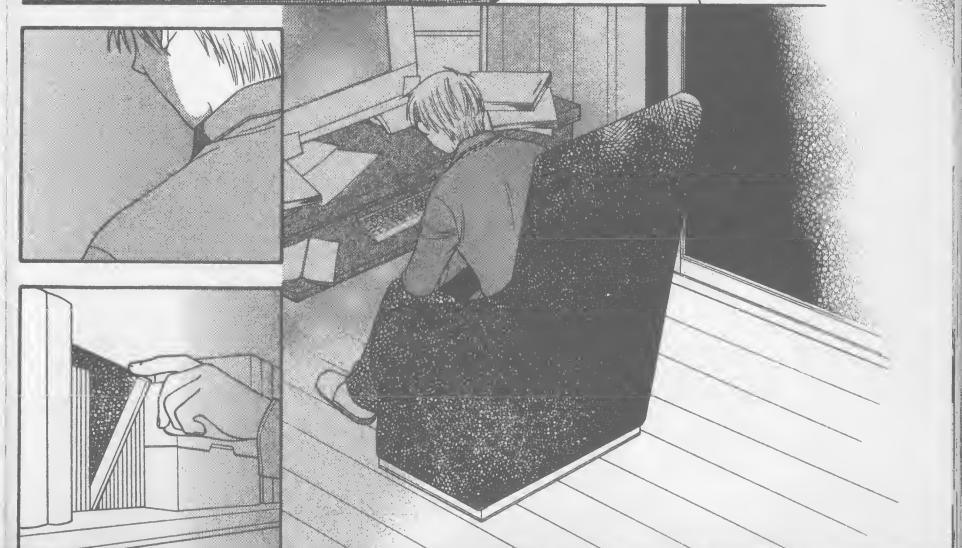
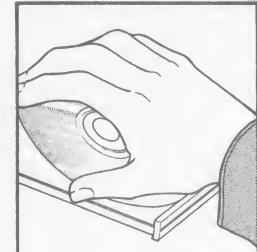
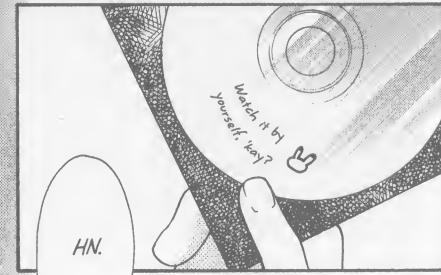
AS PER THE  
USUAL, HIS  
EMOTIONS  
ARE MAKING  
HIM SICK.

...HE'S  
BEEN  
LYING  
IN BED.

EVER  
SINCE  
NEW  
YEAR'S...

AND HER  
LOVE.



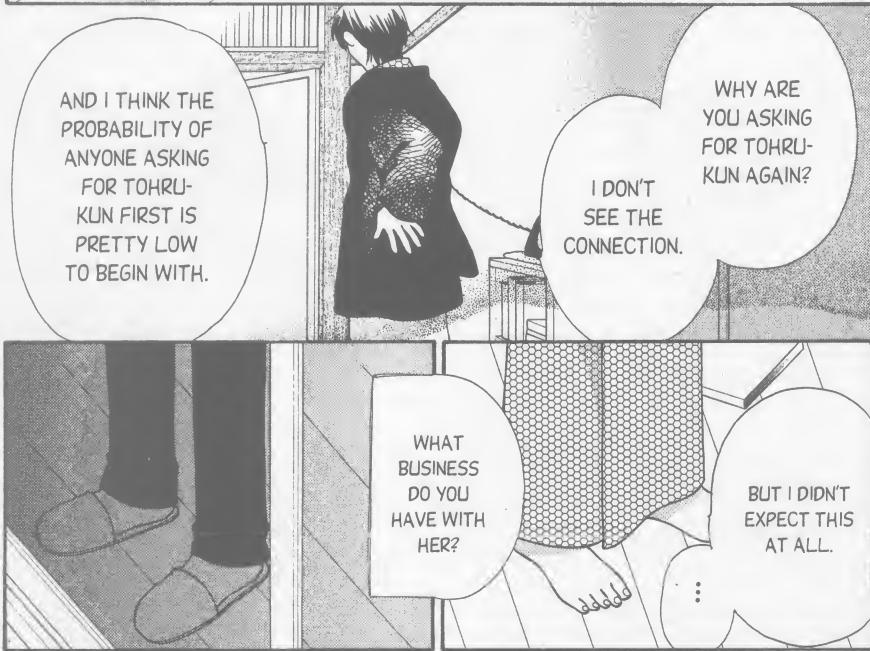






"DON'T  
ABANDON  
ME!"

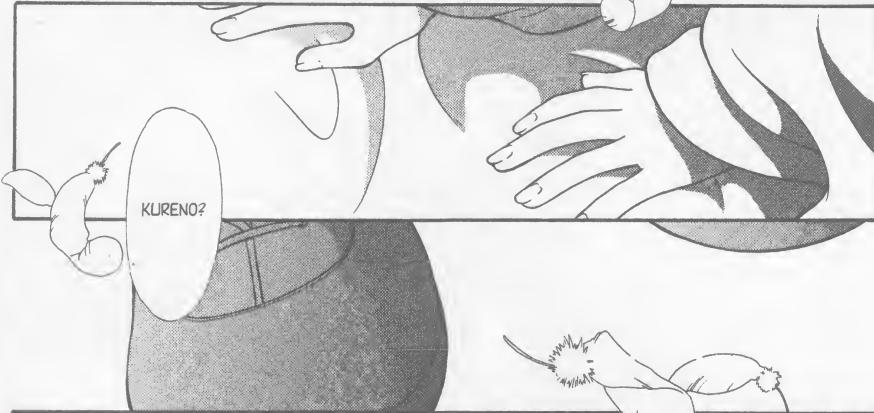








## Chapter 97





RIGHT.

BUT I'M  
NOT LIKE  
THAT  
ANYMORE.

I WON'T  
TRANSFORM.

MY  
CURSE...

...HAS  
ALREADY...



"WE  
TRANSFORM."

"WHEN  
HUGGED..."

"BY THE  
OPPOSITE  
GENDER, WE  
TRANSFORM."

I CAN'T  
FLY  
ANYMORE.

"YOU'RE  
LUCKY,  
KURENO."

...BEEN  
BROKEN.

IT  
HAPPENED  
YEARS AGO.

I CAN'T  
THINK  
OF HIM  
AS ONE  
OF US."

...I'M NO  
LONGER  
ONE OF  
THE  
ZODIAC.

"YOU'RE  
LUCKY."  
HE HARDLY  
EVEN  
ASSOCIATES  
WITH THE  
OTHER  
MEMBERS OF  
THE ZODIAC."

NOW  
...

I...

I...



At first, maybe people didn't really know the word "waves," because I got asked what it means a lot.

Hana-chan.



- With her father, mother, grandmother, and younger brother (Megumi), Hana-chan has a family of five.

- I think I've mentioned everything about Hana-chan in the story, so there's not really anything to add.

- She likes shoujo manga and shoujo novels more (?) than you'd expect.

- After the sleepover, she made sure to buy "Summer-Colored Sigh" and read it again.

- Her admiration for Shishou is strong.

- But I wonder if my thinking they'd make a good couple is just my blind love for them as their creator (laugh).

KURENO-SAN.

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ZODIAC?

THEY STILL THINK YOU'RE THE BIRD.

HUH?

BUT...

EVEN NOW.

A-AND YOU'RE STILL BY AKITO-SAN'S SIDE.

AREN'T YOU?

...HAVEN'T BEEN RELEASED FROM?

KURENO-SAN...

WHAT IS IT THAT YOU STILL...

AND THERE WAS NOTHING TO DRIVE ME AWAY.

LIKE THERE WAS NO ONE INSIDE ME BUT "ME."

IT FELT LIKE MY FIELD OF VISION HAD ABRUPTLY BEEN OPENED.

IT FELT LIKE...

...I'D FINALLY BECOME HUMAN.

FINALLY.

I REALIZED SOMETHING.

I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO FLY IN THAT SKY AGAIN. IT MADE ME BOTH SAD...

AND I WAS HAPPY.

...AND ELATED.

THE SKY WAS SO BLUE THAT DAY.

...I'LL  
CONTINUE  
TO STAY  
BY AKITO'S  
SIDE.

I WON'T  
BE SEEING  
ARISA.

BECAUSE  
FROM  
NOW ON...

"I HAVE...  
NO INTENTION..."

"...OF  
SEEING  
HER."

THEY WERE  
SUCH TINY,  
TRIVIAL  
ENCOUNTERS.

...THAT I  
MET ARISA  
AND TALKED  
WITH HER.

IT WAS  
ONLY  
TWICE...

TWICE.

I CAME  
HERE TO  
TELL YOU  
THAT.

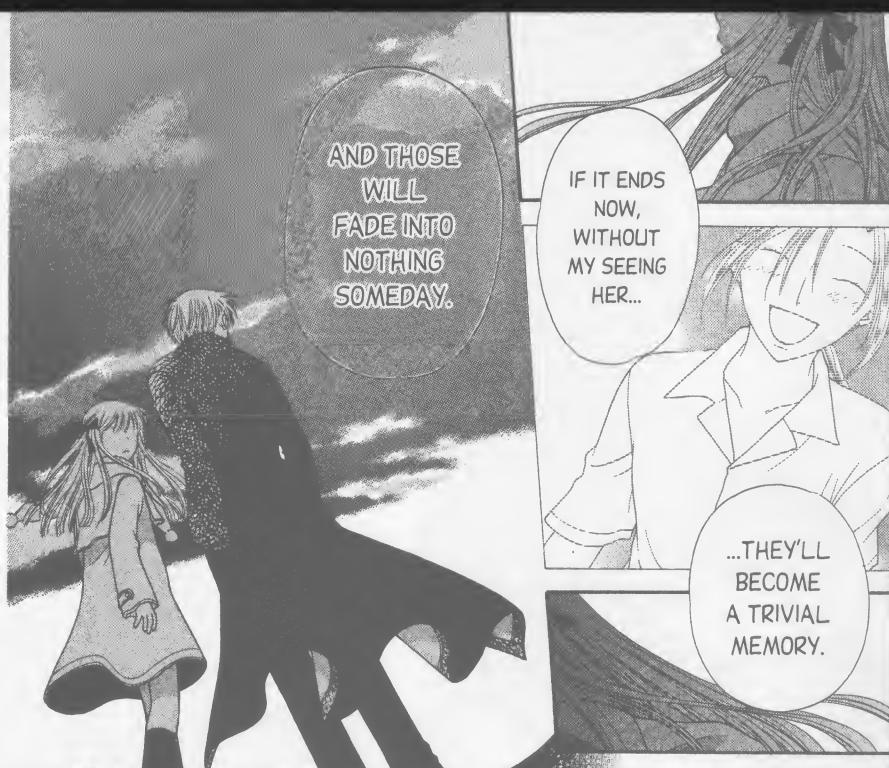
I'M JUST...  
SORRY.

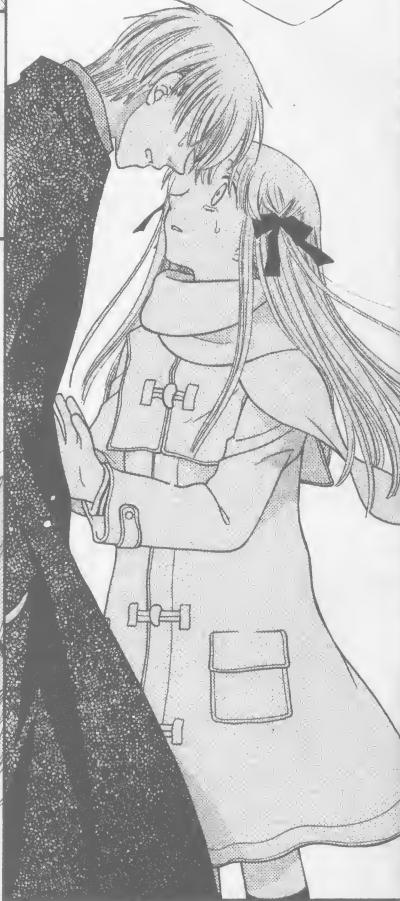
I'M  
SORRY.

ABOUT  
YOUR  
PRESENT.

IT'S  
WASTED  
ON ME.







AKITO?!

GET  
AWAY  
FROM  
US!

WHY?

WHY?

WHY?!

DON'T LET  
ANYONE COME  
UNTIL I SAY  
SO. DO YOU  
HEAR ME?!

IF ANYONE  
COMES, I'LL  
KILL THEM!

I'LL KILL  
THEM!

WHY?!

AKI...

...I HAVE  
TO BE BY  
AKITO'S  
SIDE.

AKITO,  
CALM  
DOWN.

WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?!

WHAT'S  
THE  
MATTER,  
AKITO-SA--

AKITO.

WHY ARE YOU  
LOOKING AT ME  
WITH DISTANT  
EYES?!

...WHAT?

NO.

THOSE  
EYES.

STOP  
IT!

WHY ARE  
YOUR  
EYES SO...  
DISTANT?

AKITO?

YOU'VE  
BEEN  
LOOKING  
AT ME  
LIKE  
THAT.

I  
DON'T  
LIKE  
IT.

I  
HONESTLY  
DON'T  
KNOW.

HAP-  
PENED?

I  
MEAN...

I  
DIDN'T--

IT'S OUR  
BOND...!

I  
DON'T  
KNOW,  
EITHER!

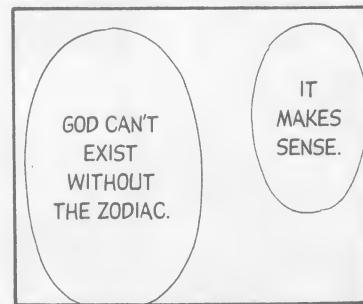
IT  
JUST...  
HAP-  
PENED.

WHY  
DID IT  
BREAK?!

I  
DON'T--

WHY?!



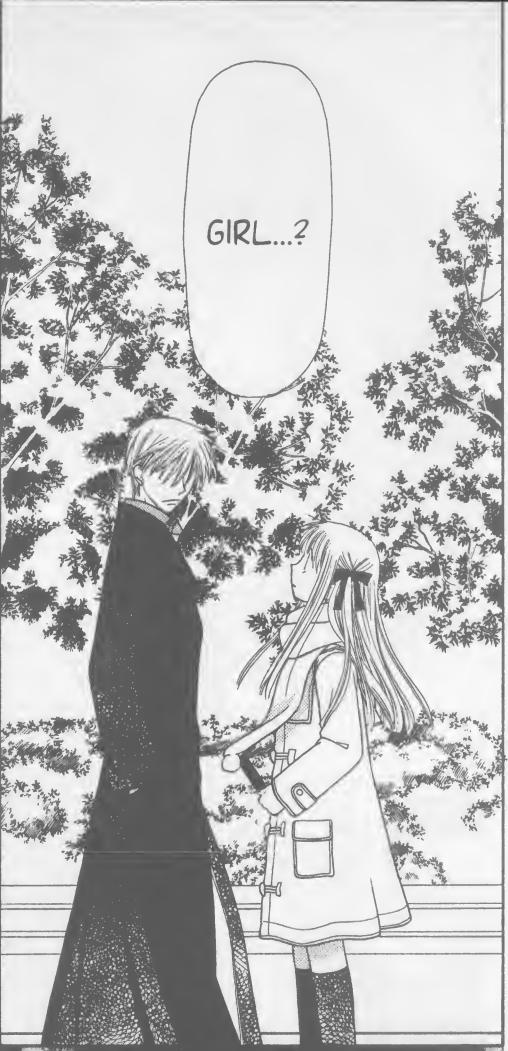




"YOU FELT SORRY FOR HIM?"



## Chapter 98







REN  
SOHMA.

BUT TO  
AKITO, SHE'S  
STILL THE  
BIGGEST  
PART OF  
HIS LIFE.

THAT  
PERSON.

SHE'S  
USUALLY  
IN A BACK  
ROOM.

SHE'S A  
LITTLE  
ILL, BOTH  
PHYSICALLY  
AND  
MENTALLY.

WHY ARE  
YOU EVEN  
WANDERING  
AROUND  
HERE?

GO BACK  
TO YOUR  
OWN  
ROOM!  
NOW!

SHE WAS  
ONLY  
SAYING  
HELLO.

AKITO,  
IT'S NOT  
LIKE  
THAT.

AKITO...

THAT'S  
RIGHT.

YOU CAN'T  
JUST GET  
NEAR THEM  
WHENEVER  
YOU WANT!

I WAS  
ONLY  
SAYING  
HELLO TO  
HATORI.

...YOU  
START  
COMING ON  
TO HIM!

THE  
MINUTE  
YOU SEE  
A MAN  
FROM THE  
ZODIAC...

IS  
THAT SO  
WRONG?

HOW  
MANY  
TIMES DO  
I HAVE  
TO TELL  
YOU?!



THOSE TWO  
TRULY HATE  
EACH OTHER.

NEITHER  
AKITO  
NOR REN-  
SAN...

...WILL  
EXPLAIN  
THE REAL  
REASON  
FOR IT.

THERE'S  
ONLY ONE  
THING...

...WE KNOW  
FOR SURE.

IT WAS  
HIS OWN  
MOTHER'S  
DECISION.

SHE  
DECIDED  
TO RAISE  
AKITO AS  
A MAN.



AKITO'S...



...MOTHER.



NO ONE HAS  
THE RIGHT  
TO GET RID  
OF THEM!

MY  
"PERMA-  
NENCE"!

NO ONE,  
NOT EVEN YOU,  
CAN DEFINE  
WHAT'S REAL,  
WHAT'S A LIE,  
WHAT'S PRETENSE,  
WHAT'S WORSHIP!

THE REAL  
THING?

MY "BOND"  
WITH  
EVERYONE!

THE REAL  
THING DOES  
EXIST, AND  
I HAVE IT!

I HAVE  
IT WITH  
AKIRA-SAN!

THAT IS  
REAL...!

THE "BOND"  
BETWEEN  
AKIRA-SAN  
AND ME.

AKITO!

TELL ME  
WHAT IS  
REAL!

THEN  
TELL  
ME!

THE LOVE  
OF A  
PARENT?!  
EVEN  
THAT ISN'T  
PERFECT!

EVEN JUST  
WITHIN THE  
SOHMA, THERE  
ARE TONS OF  
PARENTS WHO  
LEAVE THEIR  
OWN KIDS!

SEE?

Koff  
Koff  
Koff  
JUST  
LIKE YOU  
DID!



"MY CHILD,  
BORN TO BE  
LOVED."

"...AKITO."

"...FOR  
YOU,  
AKITO."

"WE'VE  
ALL BEEN  
WAITING..."

AND THEN I  
CAN go To  
AKIRA-SAN!

I  
CERTAINLY  
DON'T NEED  
sOMEONE  
LIKE you!

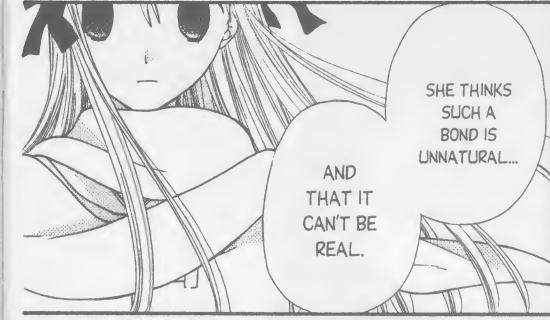
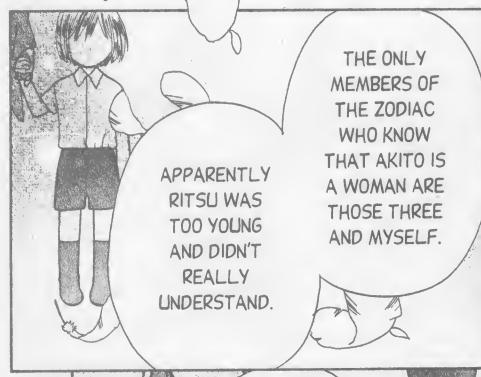
I'LL  
KILL  
YOU!

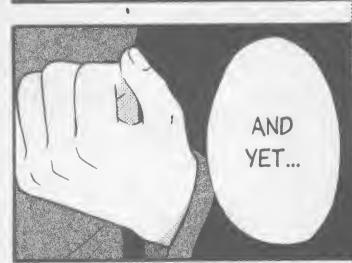
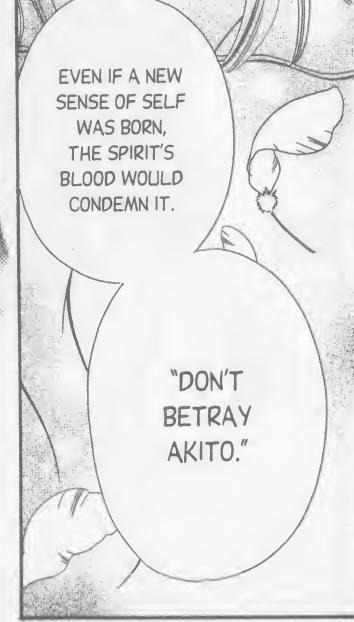
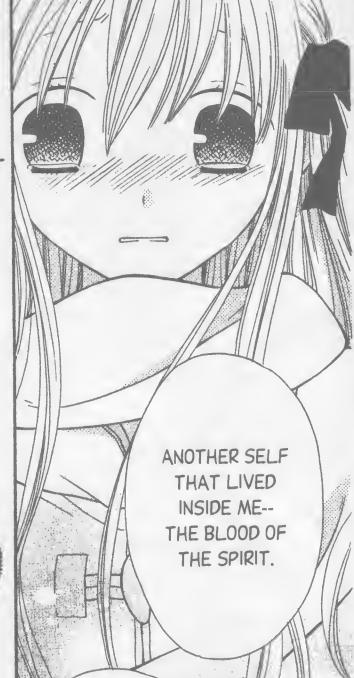
FINE,  
KILL  
ME!

IF I DIE, MY  
SOUL WILL  
RISE TO  
HEAVEN.

I'LL  
KILL  
YOU!

...



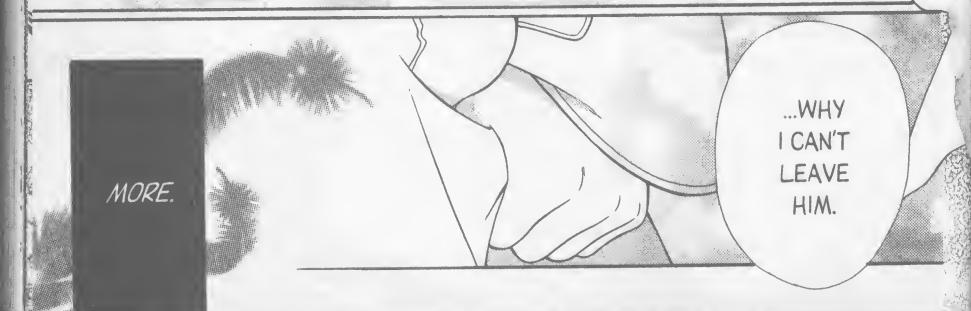
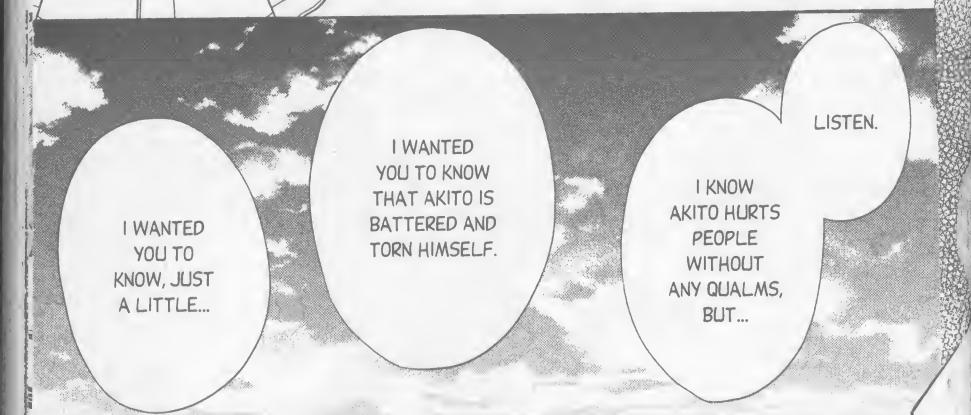




...SAY SUCH AWFUL THINGS?

NNGH!





AND  
THANK  
YOU.

I  
CAN'T...

FOR  
EVERYTHING.

...MOVE  
ANYMORE.

I'M THE  
ONE WHO  
DECIDED TO  
DO THIS.

...I'M  
SORRY.

BUT THE  
WORDS WON'T  
COME.

I SHOULD  
HAVE MORE  
TO SAY.

...TO  
SAY.

THEY  
WON'T.

STILL.

THIS  
IS THE  
PATH I'VE  
CHOSSEN.

I'VE  
CHOSSEN  
IT.

I CHOSE  
IT ON  
MY  
OWN.

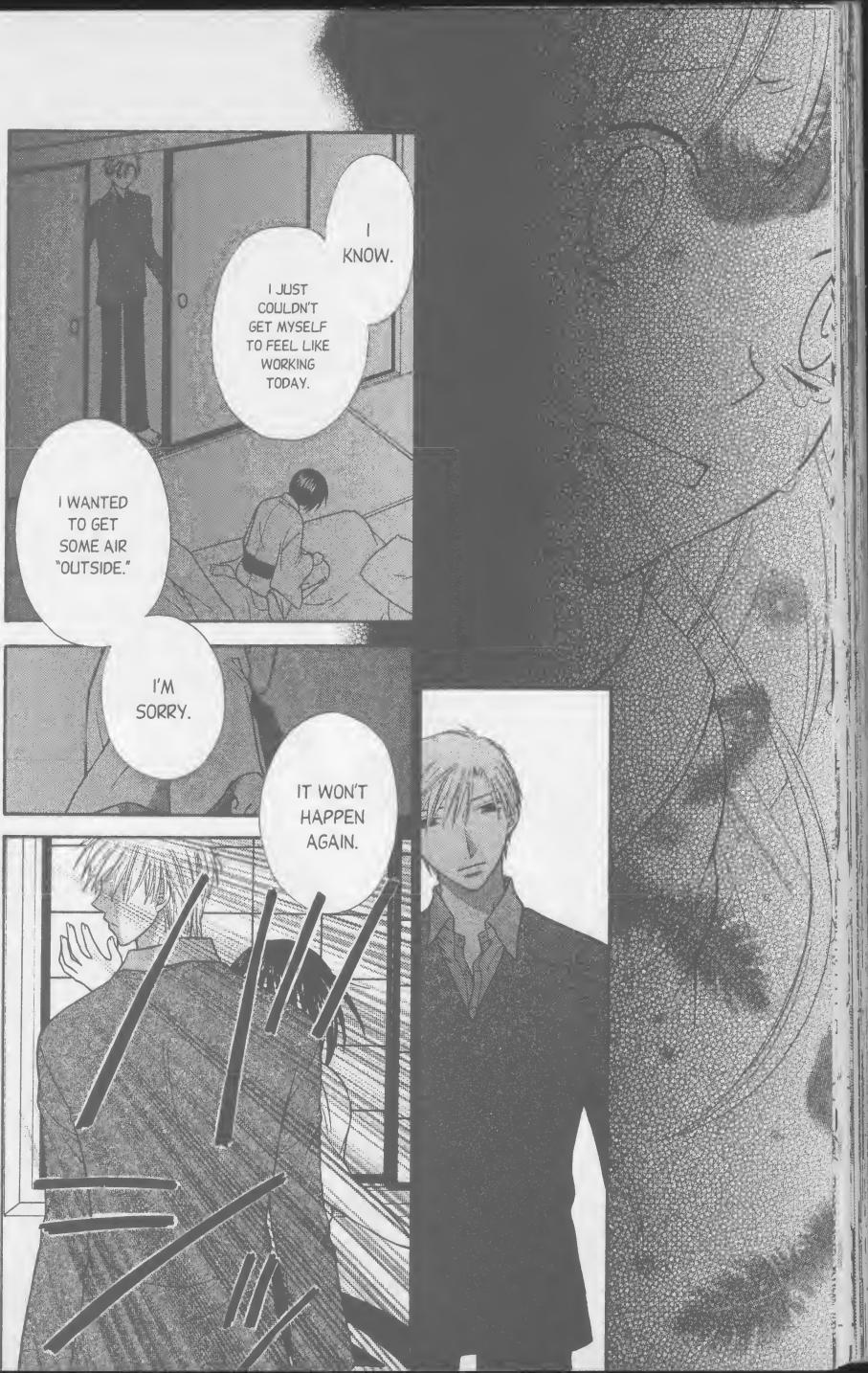
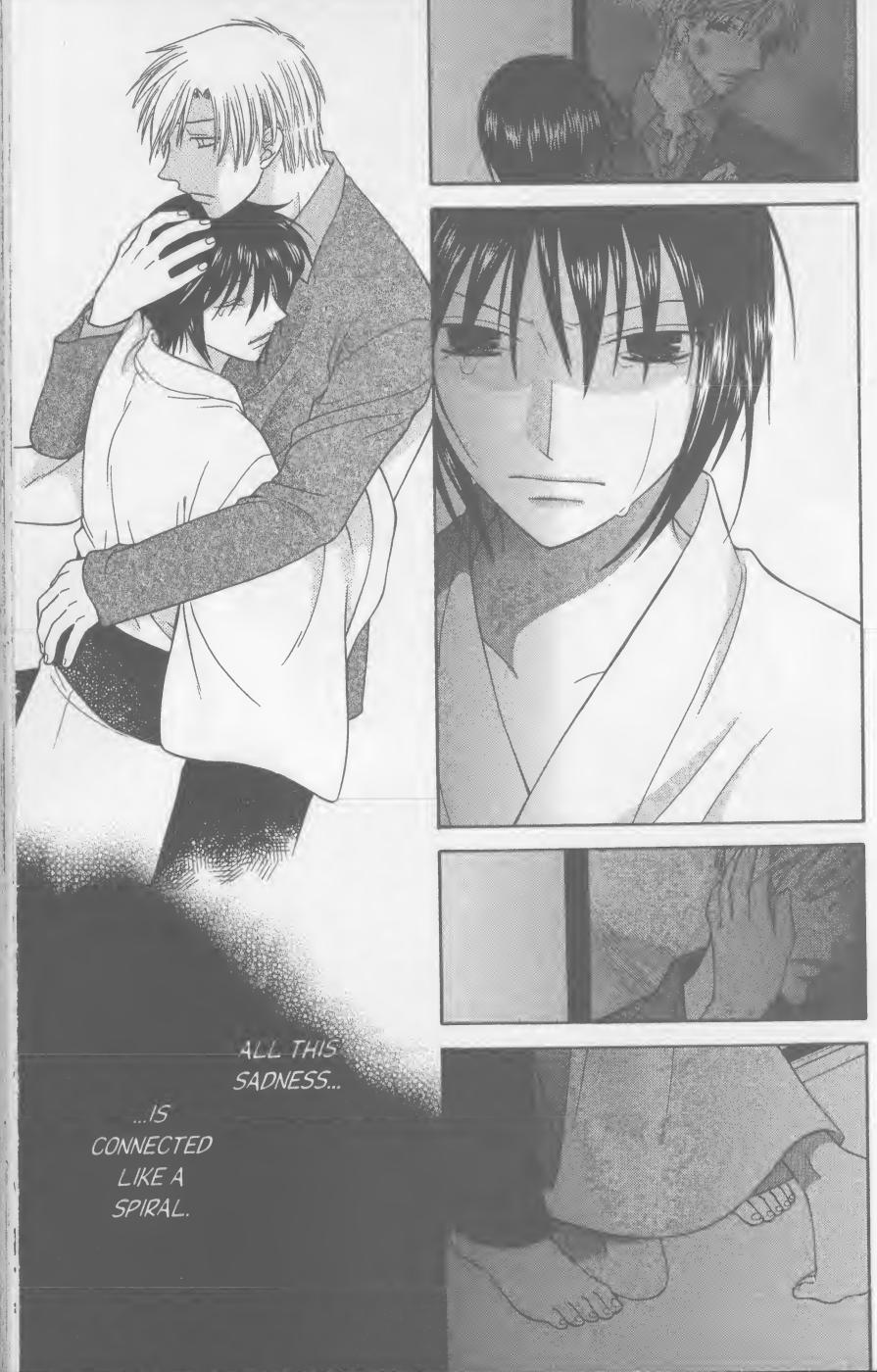
...IS HURT  
PEOPLE.

ALL I  
EVER DO...

I SHOULD  
HAVE MORE...

I'M  
SORRY.







## Chapter 99





Regarding this girl, letters usually tell me "I like her, but I wouldn't want her as a friend."

Kimi.



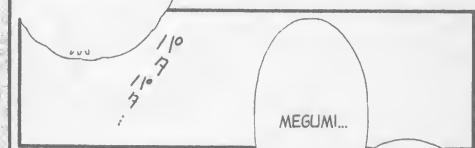
- With her father and mother, Kimi is in a family of three.
- Her father is elite, so she grew up in a fairly affluent home.
- When creating Kimi, my top priority was to make a girl who had absolutely no connection with "the Sohma family or emotional pain."
- But I get the feeling that she's uselessly lively.
- And my editor told me, "You like drawing girls like this, don't you?"
- In Chapter 66, when Kakeru said, "But really, she's just--" I got a letter asking if the end to that sentence was "an okama." That's a reader with a good memory (laugh).

Why an okama? Isn't an okama a drag queen?

← To be continued









...THERE'S  
SOMEONE  
ELSE...

BE-  
CAUSE...

HE HAS  
TO BE  
WITH.

...OF  
SOMEONE  
ELSE.

...HE CARES  
MORE  
ABOUT THE  
FEELINGS...

INSTEAD  
OF HIS OWN  
FEELINGS...

K-KURENO-SAN  
IS SO KIND.

..DO  
ANYTHING...!

BUT I  
COULDN'T...

I  
COULDN'T...

ALL I'VE  
DONE IS  
CAUSE  
TROUBLE.

I  
COULDN'T.

I  
COULDN'T  
SAY  
ANYTHING.

KURENO-  
SAN...

KURENO-SAN  
IS A...SOHMA.

KURENO...

...TO  
MEET WITH  
UIO-CHAN...

I  
JUST...

I  
WANTED  
HIM...

AND I  
A-ASKED  
HIM.

BUT HE  
SAYS...

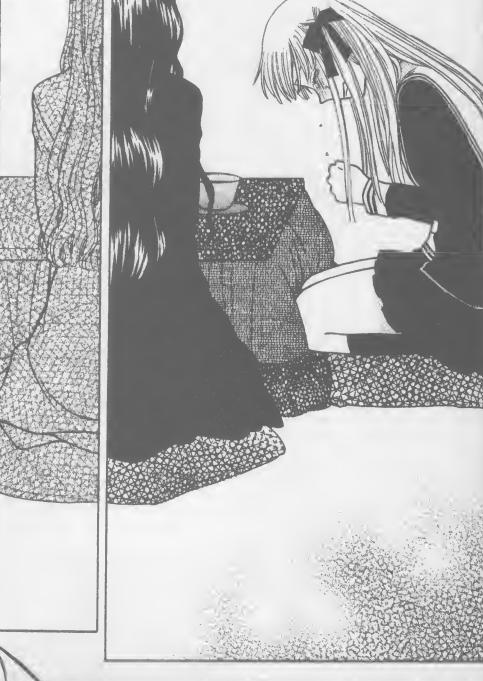
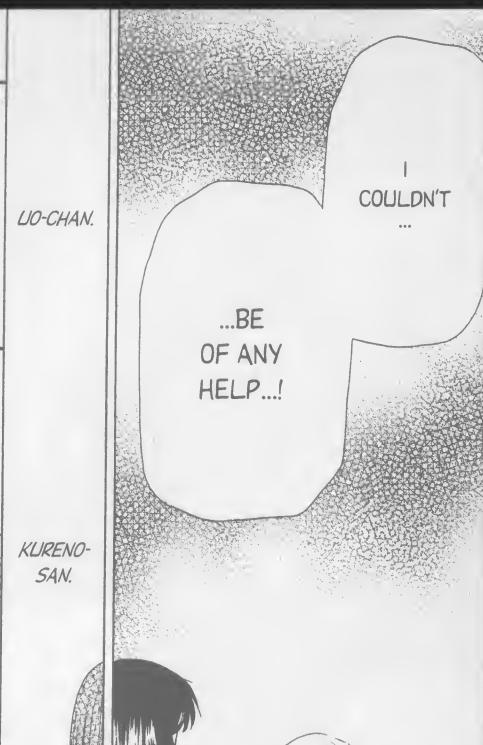
HE  
TOLD  
ME  
THAT.

HE SAYS  
HE CAN'T  
SEE HER.

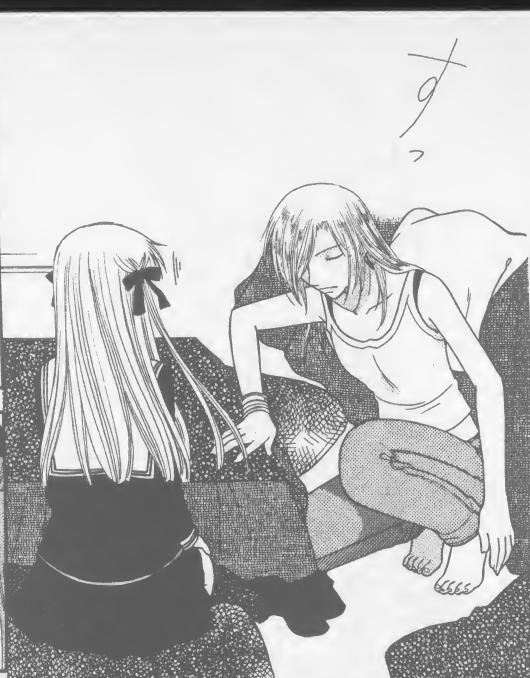
KU...

KURENO...

...SAN...!











THAT'S  
ALREADY  
MY CREED.

WELL,  
OBVIOUSLY.



OH! MAY I  
HELP WITH  
SOMETHING?

EASY  
THERE.

I'M  
SURROUNDED  
BY OLDER  
WOMEN. HOW  
VERY EXCITING.

SHALL WE  
START THIS  
PARTY?

WELL,  
NOW.



MEGUMI!  
BAD BOY,  
MEGUMI.  
YOU HAVE  
TO SPEAK  
CAREFULLY  
IN TIMES  
LIKE THESE.

BUT...



ARE YOU  
SPEAKING OF  
A LOST LOVE,  
ARISA-SAN?



NOTHING  
HAS BEEN  
A WASTE.

REALY...

FRIENDS.

LOVES.



UO-CHAN...

...MORNING  
STILL  
ALWAYS  
COMES.

LOVE IS  
DIFFICULT.

ALWAYS.

HAS THERE  
EVER BEEN  
A NIGHT  
THAT HAD  
NO DAWN?

WHATEVER  
HAPPENS IN  
THE NIGHT...

力

INDEED...

THEY  
FELL  
ASLEEP.

INDEED.

IT  
SEEMS...

THAT ARISA  
WAS GIVEN  
CLOSURE FOR HER  
OWN FEELINGS  
AS WELL.

SHE'S  
PROBABLY A  
BIT RELIEVED.

THAT  
MAY  
BE...

...ANOTHER  
STORY.

HM.

I WONDER  
IF THE  
POSSIBILITY  
IS GONE?



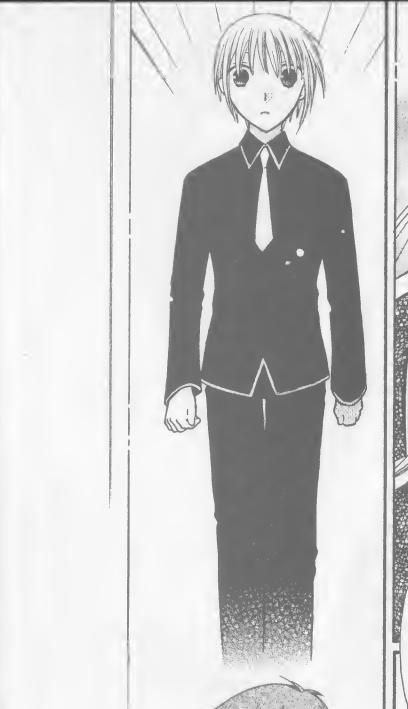
IT WAS  
ALL BEAT  
UP ON THE  
GROUND.

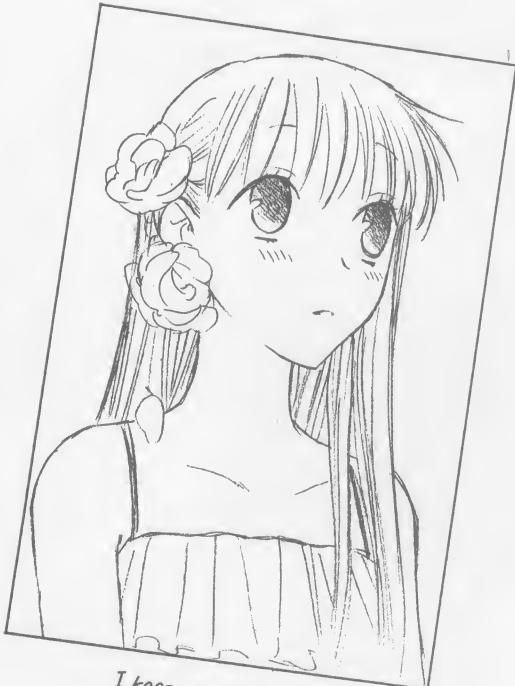
*In the  
street.*



IF THE DIRT  
BOthers  
YOU, BUY A  
NEW ONE.







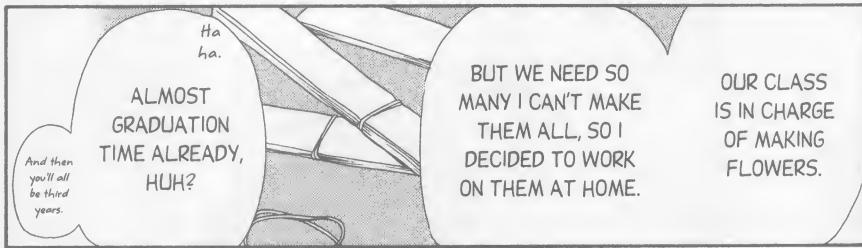
I keep making her  
cause problems...

Filler  
Sketch





Chapter 100



Filler Sketch



Now they're in a complicated love triangle.



Continued →

• Kimi-chan really thinks that all the men around her love her from the bottom of their hearts, all the women around her are there to make her look better by contrast, and that if they all like her, she can go out with as many people as she wants. She considers that permissible. It's nice that Kimi-chan is so honest with herself (laugh)!

• I hope you can always be like that.

It's all right; I'm sure she will.



• Come to think of it, I don't think I've ever drawn this guy smiling...

Nao-hito.

• With his father, mother, eldest sister (full-fledged member of society), and next older sister (college student), Nao-chan has a family of five.

• To be continued



...IT WAS LIKE PEERING DOWN INTO A DEEP, DARK WELL.

AKITO-SAN IS A WOMAN.

AND THERE ARE PROBLEMS BETWEEN HER AND HER MOTHER REN-SAN.

AND KURENO-SAN...

ESPECIALLY TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ZODIAC...

...WHO STILL DON'T KNOW.



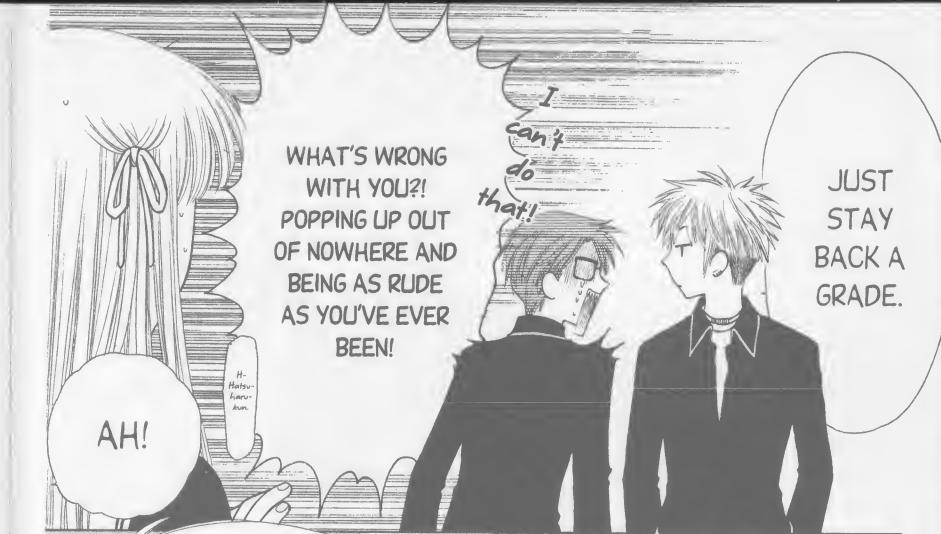
I CAN'T ASK HIM!

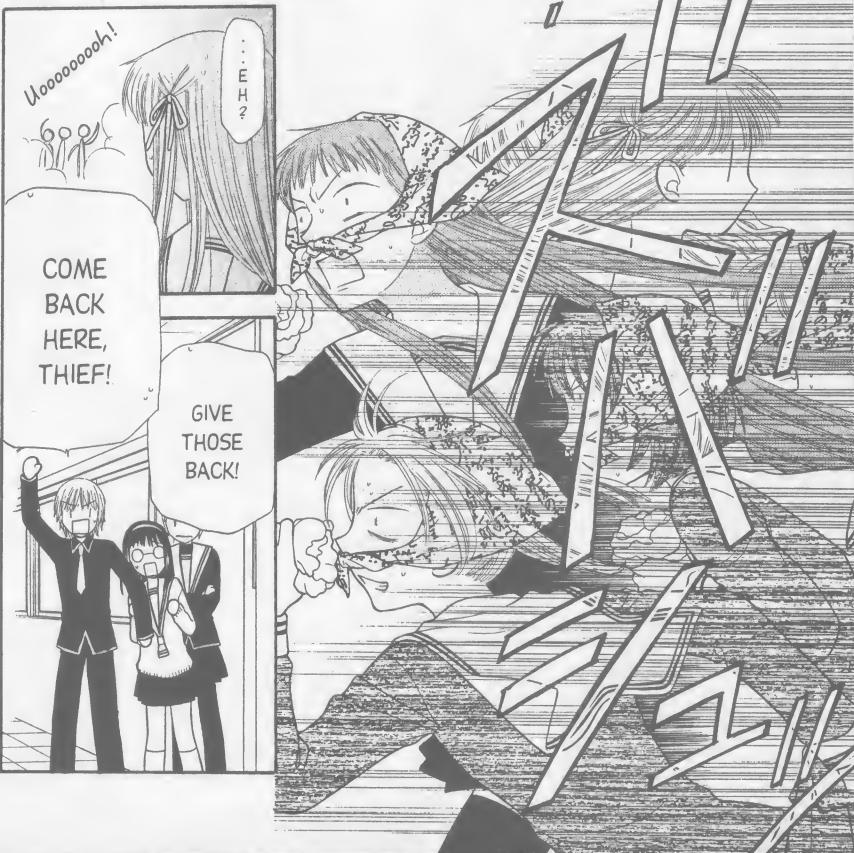
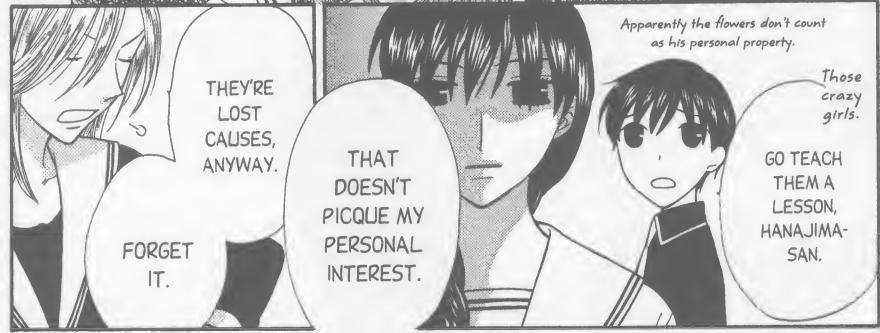
IT'S A DIFFICULT TOPIC TO BRING UP.

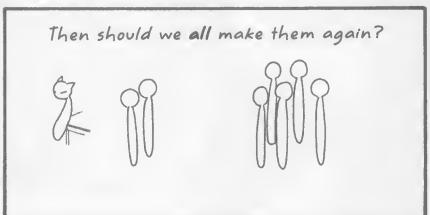
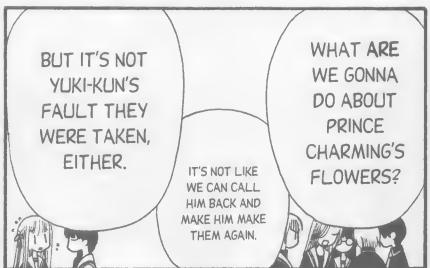
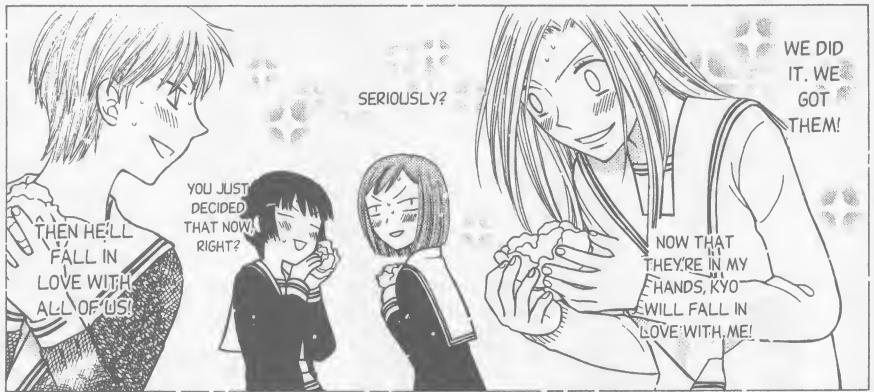
I UNDERSTAND.

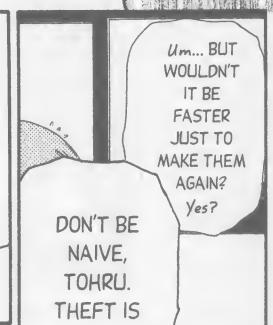








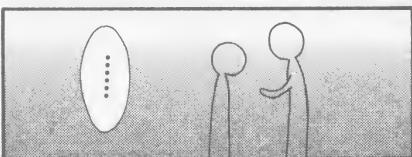


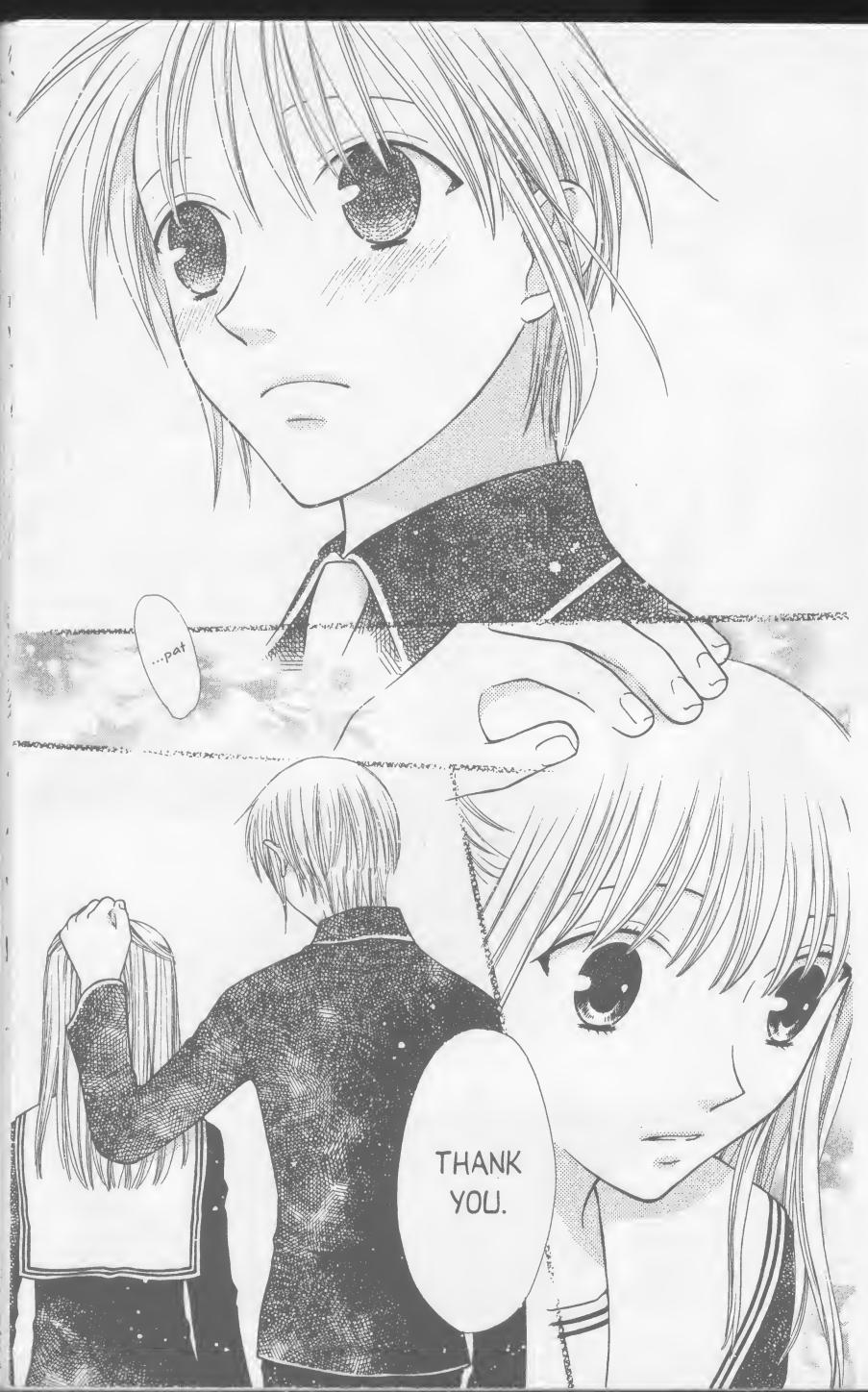


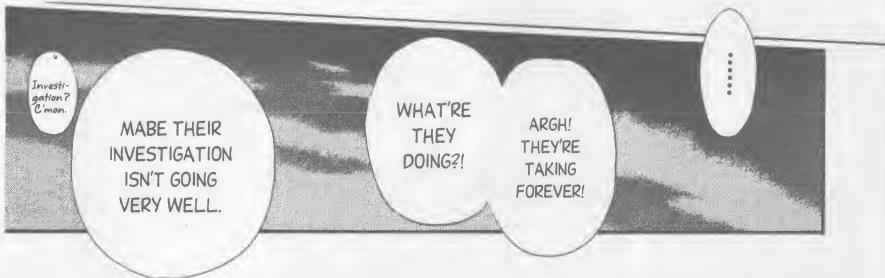
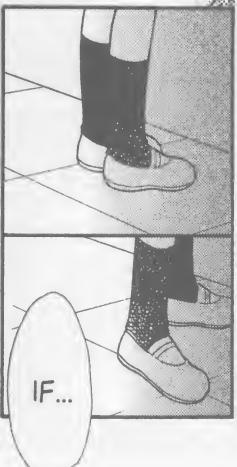
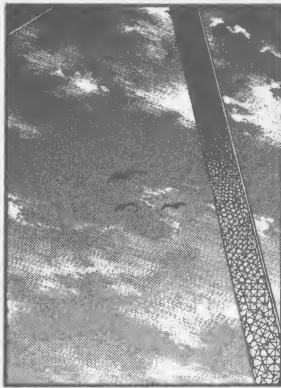


MWA  
ha  
ha  
ha!  
WOO!









WHY'RE  
YOU ALL  
DEPRESSED  
NOW?!

HEY!

HUH?

WHAT  
DO I  
DO?

I'M NOT  
ACTUALLY  
MAD OR  
ANYTHING!

WAS IT HOW  
I SAID IT?!

WAS THERE  
SOMETHING  
WRONG  
WITH HOW  
I SAID IT?!

WAIT!  
DON'T...  
JUST DON'T  
APOLOGIZE!

I'M SORRY...  
IT WAS  
THOUGHTLESS  
OF ME.

NO.

I'M  
SORRY!

W--

DON'T ASK  
"WHAT IF'S"  
ABOUT  
THAT  
CURSE  
STUFF.

CUT IT  
OUT.

WHAT'RE  
YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?

WHAT  
WOULD I  
THINK?

I  
DUNNO.

WHAT  
WOULD  
YOU THINK?

UM...

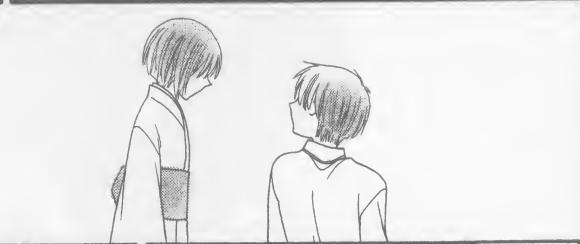
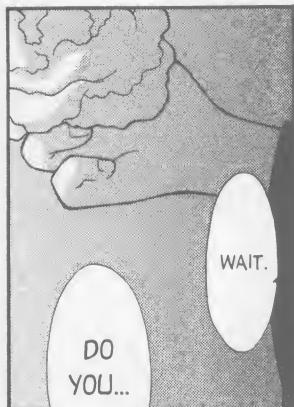
...WHOSE  
ZODIAC  
CURSE WAS  
BROKEN...

IF THERE  
WAS SOME-  
BODY...



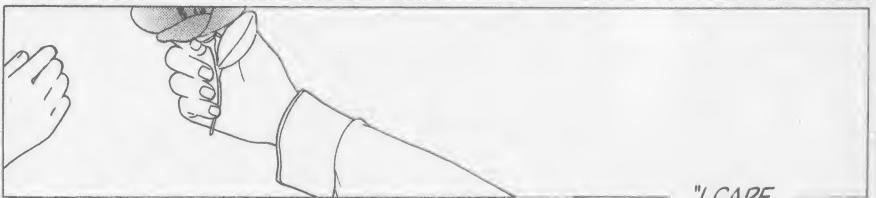
"...ABOUT  
YOU."







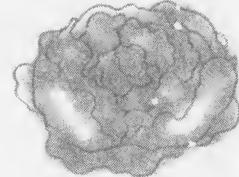
## Chapter 101



"I CARE  
ABOUT YOU."

"AND THAT IS  
THE HONEST..."

"...AND  
UNSHAKABLE  
TRUTH."







Continued →

- I made Nao-chan a boy who has no relation to the axis of the story as well. That makes me think Nao-chan is uselessly lively, too.

- Women are the majority in his family, and he grew up with his two older sisters taking loving care of him (laugh).

- He's worked like a slave, always being told to go buy this or go get that.

- I think it may be one of Nao-chan's good traits that, even while he's complaining about it, he'll grant their requests.

- But him liking "that person" might actually be because he has a sister complex.

- Kakeru thinks he's taking loving care of him, too, in the way he treats him.

- From the reader's point of view, it might be irritating to have a character whose heart isn't complete yet, but from the writer's perspective, it's pretty fun.

WHAT?  
HEH  
HEH.  
YOU WERE  
THINKING  
SUCH A WEIRD  
THING IN THE  
BOTTOM OF  
YOUR HEART?  
  
In the drama  
CD, she  
pretended  
to be  
modest,  
didn't she?





Talking about a movie.



# THOSE WERE YOUR PARENTS?!

SORRY TO  
SAY, BUT  
I HAVE  
PARENTS,  
TOO.  
Even me.

THAT'S RIGHT.  
EVEN THE  
DIFFERENCE IN  
SOCIAL STATUS  
BETWEEN YOU  
AND RITCHAN IS  
TREMENDOUS.

THE SOHMAS  
SEEM LIKE AN  
INCREDIBLE  
FAMILY.  
I always  
thought as  
much.

Oh...  
Main  
house...  
dinner...  
I want  
to see  
your  
parents'  
faces!  
No!  
I WANT TO  
SEE THEM  
AGAIN! I  
WASN'T  
PAYING  
ATTENTION!

THE GREAT  
HEAD  
OF THE  
FAMILY  
MAKES HIS  
ENTRANCE.

OH,  
LOOK.

DON'T BOTHER.  
I'M SURE  
THEY'LL JUST  
SHOO AWAY  
OUTSIDERS.

PEOPLE  
CHOSSEN  
FROM THE  
MAIN HOUSE  
ARE HAVING  
DINNER  
TOGETHER  
TONIGHT.

You have  
the worst  
taste in  
restaurants,  
Ritchan.

WAIT,  
SHIGURE!

...OH.

MY  
EDITOR'S  
HERE,  
SO I'D  
BETTER--

YOU'RE JOKING,  
RIGHT?  
WHERE'S  
THE FUN IN  
DRINKING WITH  
YOUR OWN  
PARENTS?

ERM.

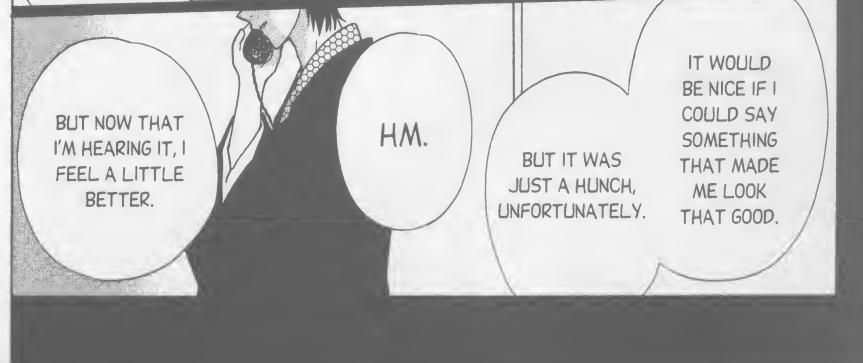
IF THEY'RE  
FRIENDS OF  
YOURS, WHY  
DON'T YOU  
GO DRINKING  
WITH THEM?  
You know.

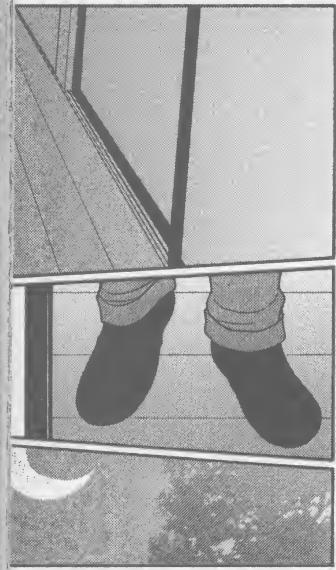
LET'S  
GO.

AT LEAST  
SAY HELLO  
TO AKITO-  
SAN.

HUH?  
BUT...







HAVE YOU  
SLEPT  
WITH HER  
YET?

TO  
APOLOGIZE  
FOR NOT  
TALKING TO  
YOU AT THE  
RESTAURANT.

WHAT DID  
YOU COME  
ALL THE  
WAY HERE  
FOR?

SOMEONE  
I WORK  
WITH.

WHO WAS  
THAT  
WOMAN  
WITH YOU?

THAT'S  
JUST SILLY,  
AKITO-SAN.

BUT YOU  
SLEPT WITH  
THAT WOMAN,  
DIDN'T YOU?

AND WHICH  
WOMAN IS "THAT  
WOMAN"?

HA! AND HERE  
I THOUGHT  
YOU'D SLEEP  
WITH ANY  
WOMAN.

THAT  
WOULD BE  
DIFFICULT.

OH,  
BOY.

WHEN YOU  
DRESS LIKE  
THAT...

DID YOU  
ENJOY  
DINNER  
WITH  
EVERYONE?

...YOU LOOK  
MORE LIKE  
A BOY THAN  
EVER.

...WELCOME  
BACK.

!!

...AND AWAY FROM ME!

YOU WANTED TO GET AWAY!

AWAY FROM HERE...

YOU WERE LOOKING FOR AN EXCUSE TO LEAVE, WEREN'T YOU?!

YOU LIKE THAT WOMAN BETTER THAN--

YOU LIKE HER.

SHIGURE.

THAT'S WHY YOU AND THAT WOMAN WENT AND...

"I CARE ABOUT YOU."

"MORE THAN I CARE ABOUT ANYONE."

AND THAT'S WHY I'M LIVING IN THAT HOUSE.

LISTEN TO YOU.

THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO.

YOU LEFT WITHOUT RESISTING IN THE SLIGHTEST!

YOU TOLD ME TO GET OUT OF HERE, REMEMBER?

AND YOU ALREADY PUNISHED ME FOR IT.

HOW DARE YOU DO THAT WITH HER?!

I MEAN REN!





FOR SOMEONE  
WHO'S  
DENIED HER  
"WOMANHOOD" ...

"I'LL  
BE  
HERE."

...YOU SURE  
DO RESORT ...

...TO  
USING IT  
QUICKLY.



WE'LL  
JUST  
KEEP  
REPEATING  
THE SAME  
THINGS  
THAT WE  
ALWAYS DO.

I'LL GO  
HOME  
FOR  
TODAY.

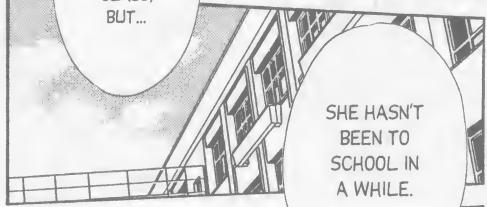
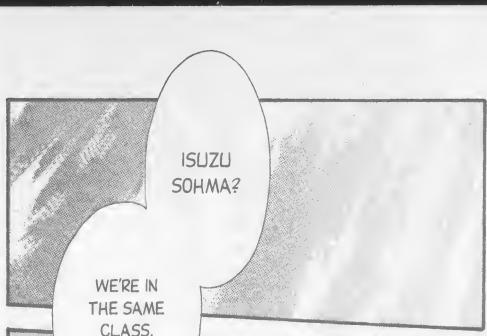
IF  
YOU DON'T  
UNDER-  
STAND...  
THEN  
LET'S  
STOP  
TALKING  
ABOUT  
THIS.

THAT'LL  
ONLY MAKE  
YOUR MOOD  
WORSE.

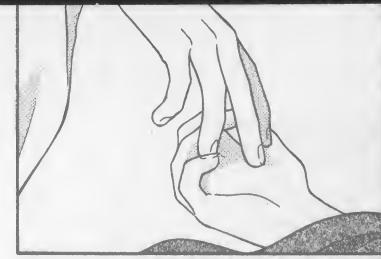


"I WANT TO  
TRAMPLE HER  
TO A PULP."





What?  
Come on!



I feel so  
grateful!  
♪

...She says.

Harada-sama, Araki-sama,  
Mother-sama, Editor-sama

And everyone who reads and  
supports this manga.

Next is the one whom I feel is now  
completely recognized as "Kyo's father."

This has been...

高屋奈月  
Natsuki Takaya.

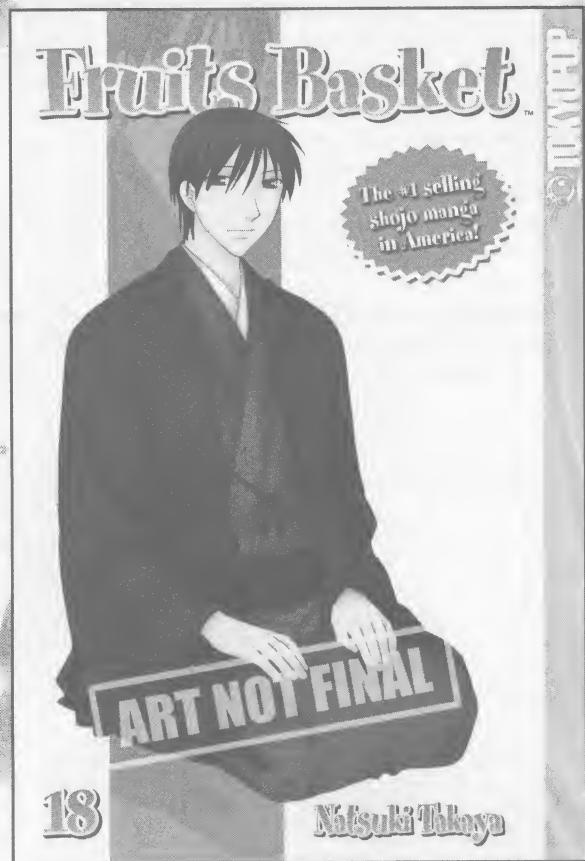
I'LL BE  
WAITING...

...FOR  
YOU.

To Be Continued in Volume 18...



Next time in...



Everyone knows Rin is in the hospital...or is she? While Hatsuharu searches for Isuzu, he discovers that Isuzu had planned to swipe an item from Akito... an item that might just allow her to break the curse! So, what has actually happened to Rin? Read *Fruits Basket* 18 to find out!

**Fruits Basket Volume 18**  
Available November 2007

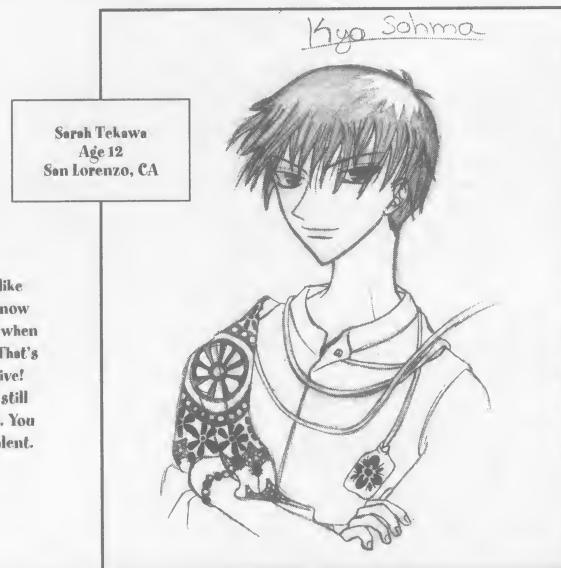


# Fans Basket



Barrie Thomas  
Age 19  
Menifee, CA

Excellent pen and ink work, Barrie. Your flowers look amazing! Thanks for being such a great fan!



Sarah Tekawa  
Age 12  
San Lorenzo, CA

Sarah would like everyone to know that she was 11 when she drew this. That's very impressive! I hope you're still drawing, Sarah. You have a lot of talent.

Wow! Volume 17 sure had some shockers, huh? How many of you were suspicious of Akito, I wonder? I'd really like to see some drawings of Akito as a woman, in her true gender! As usual, I have a never-ending mountain of "Fans Basket" mail to dig through... If your art gets picked, it's pretty much just the luck of the draw! But I honestly do read everything you send, and even if it's not ever printed, it probably put a smile on my face. So thanks! Okay, so let's see what's been chosen for this volume!

Oh! And don't stop reading after you've seen all the fan art! Thanks to TOKYOPOP copy editor Stephanie Duchin, we have a Furuba-themed "Cosplay Special" at the end of this volume! Enjoy!

- Paul Morrissey, Editor

Navy H.  
Age 16  
Calgary, Canada



6/27/06

Take a really close look at Tohru's skirt... What a fun way to include the other *Fruits Basket* characters in your piece, Navy! I also really like the badges worn by Yuki and Kyo!



M. Morigan Murphy  
Age 23  
Boston, MA

Another really stunning piece of artwork. Your tones and brushwork look fantastic, M. I really like the sleeping dog curled up next to Shigure.



Ashley Rendell  
Age 17  
Dundee, MI

Wow! Ashley made a Kyo georerow! How cool is that? According to Ashley, "His glare keeps the birds and rats away!"



Eevetta  
Age 18  
Chula Vista, CA

Kisa Sohma